ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A control method for a solid state image pickup device has: a preliminary trial image pickup step of making a plurality type of photoelectric conversion elements generate and accumulate electric charges during a

5 predetermined charge accumulation time and detecting a charge amount corresponding to an intensity of light of each color; a calculation step of calculating a charge accumulation time of photosensitive conversion elements independently for each color so as to obtain a good white balance, in accordance with the charge amount corresponding to the intensity of light of each color detected by the

10 preliminary trial image pickup step; and a final image pickup step of controlling the charge accumulation time of photosensitive conversion elements independently for each color by using the electronic shutters and a mechanical shutter and through reading electric charges from the photoelectric conversion elements to vertical charge transfer paths, in accordance with the calculated charge accumulation times, and

15 making the plurality type of photoelectric conversion elements generate and accumulate electric charges. An image having a good white balance and an image with good color reproductivity can be obtained by controlling the charge accumulation times of photoelectric conversion elements independently for each color.

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